

From the New York Minerva of Sept 25.

WE have presented to our readers the observations of Pastoret in the council of five hundred, relative to the conduct of the Directory towards the United States. We have in our possession an answer to those observations, entitled, the "American government unveiled," which in every respect, equals the Billingsgate of the Aurora and Porcupine's Gazette.

After some general remarks on attempts of Segur and Pastoret, to overthrow the constitution, the writer says, "At the time when France constituted itself into a Republic, the pretended allies of Pastoret detached themselves from us, not by a declaration of war, which would have become a frank and loyal nation, but by all those obscure and indelicate manœuvres, which mark the weakness of a perfidious government!"

This is saying we ought to have gone to war at once—attempts to steer clear of the war and preserve neutrality, are called perfidy.

The writer takes for his proofs, the substance of the complaints of Mr. Genet, as they stand in his letter to Mr. Jefferson, of Sept. 18, 1793—viz. the President's receiving the visits of Noailles and Talon, his suffering medallions of Capet and his family to hang in his room, his conduct relative to arming in our ports, prizes, &c. and that Washington had delayed to call Congress together notwithstanding Mr. Genet's "respectful intimations."

The writer speaks of Washington's being surrounded with "men of England:" he speaks of the "particulate;" or senate as being a "conspiracy against the American people:" he speaks of Mr. Monroe's being sent "Plenipotentiary to Paris without powers," as an act of machiavelism to deceive the French, by his warm republicanism, and sending Mr. Jay to London, to make a treaty destructive to the French treaties. He calls Mr. Jay the "Dumalard of the United States, that is, a tory, warmly attached to monarchy, to a peerage and to George the III."

The writer suggests that the executive of America has been guided by British agents, leagued with all traitors, refugee colorists, and emigrants, in a shameful manner—with a view to overturn the Republic.

This nonsense has been repeated in America, and re-echoed by the French Jacobins, till it is perfectly stale—it ceases even to excite resentment. But what the writer says of the designs of the French government, if true deserves more serious consideration.

He suggests that the French Republic, struggling against two and twenty armed powers at once, has hitherto dissembled her deep resentment against the United States. But now she has cut off almost all the heads of the menacing hydra, and since that of England only remains to be taken off, "it is the part of her grandeur, as well as of her justice, to manifest to the United States all her sensibility." The Directory, he says, have "knit their brows like Jupiter, but have not hurled the thunder—Nestor has spoken, but Achilles has remained in his tent."

What then must we poor devils do, when Jupiter launches his thunder bolts at us, and Achilles marches forth, armed with terror.

The following paragraph is given literally.—"In a state of war so violent as that which the French Republic has sustained against the most powerful kings of Europe, it is indubitable that neutral nations were not her friends, and that her friends, who covered themselves with a shameful neutrality, have been and are her enemies."

This is the speaking out, what French agents and their advocates have often hinted to us before.

The writer then examines the question of war with the United States. He says, merchants who trade with the Republic or against her, under the American flag, counter revolutionists who have placed their money in the banks of the United States, &c. raise an outcry about the danger of war with the United States. Having withdrawn their capitals from France, and placed them in America, they fear a rup-

ture—which might expose them to a confiscation of their property: The same cry, he says, was raised by those who had money in the bank of Venice, in Geneva, and in the caverns of Switzerland. He hints very plainly that the French government ought not to suffer such friends to escape, when it is driven to every expedient to raise money.

He goes on to examine the means of attack and defence, possessed by the United States. We have not time at present to notice his observations on these points and some others—but he has one remark that we shall give entire. It is this—"that when the present powers make peace, then is the time to chastise governments which are weak, crafty and faithless."

The meaning of this, we leave to the reader's conjectures.

From the VIRGINIA ARGUS.

To the Editor of the Virginia Argus.

Richmond, Oct. 4, 1797.

SIR,

The useful and interesting matter with which your paper is always filled, makes it improper, perhaps, to expect or ask of you, the republication of any essays which may have appeared in other papers of your own state, much less those of your own city: Yet, the anxiety which I have heard a number of your subscribers, who do not take The Virginia Gazette and General Advertiser, express, to see the papers published in that Gazette, under the signature which I now write, induces me to acquit myself of the charge of partiality, for the subscribers or friends to any particular newspaper, by publishing in yours, some of the leading features of the NINE numbers of the Development of the causes of the disturbances between the American and French Republics.

This I am impelled the more strongly to, by another consideration in addition to the one already noticed. Besides the equal attention I wish to shew to your subscribers at large, with those of every other paper in America, there is one person in particular, whose name has been frequently mentioned in those papers, and who, I am credibly informed, declared (tho' with a blush I am told, of modest innocence, I presume, on his cheek) to a citizen of his own country, after the publication of the 7th No. that "he had never then seen one of these publications;" who, if there was no other entitled to be gratified, certainly himself is. That the person alluded to, may no longer be without a sight of what I have already said and thought of him (as he is the last of all men I would conceal those sentiments and opinions from) I shall therefore now draw up a summary of the principal things I have there said of him, with the addition of a few more which yet remain to be touched upon, and which, in my opinion, it behooves that person to explain. And that I shall do for the most part by the way of interrogation, as that appears to be the favorite way of arriving at truth, with some of that person's advocates and friends.

By the ingenious invention of the Aurora, which may justly be styled the enemies of jacobinism put to the rack, we are taught to propound a few useful queries on the other side; a few candid answers to which will very much aid the querist and Editor of that useful paper, in arriving at truth on the subject of his enquiries. By as ready and as satisfactory answers being made, as were afforded on that occasion, it may be seen who, and what party, are best prepared to pass the fiery ordeal of such a torturous examination as has been there set on foot.

In the first place then Mr. Pleasants, to pursue and be consistent with my original plan, who, give me leave to ask, was our ambassador in France, when their revolution broke out, and our general government was formed?

2d. Q. Did not that ambassador write to America, while our government was under consideration for adoption or rejection, recommending certain things to be done which were not done, or paid any very great attention to?

3d. Q. Had that neglect and the presumption of the people of America to form

a government for themselves, in his absence and in contempt of his advice, any, and what effect, on his secret opinions and dispositions towards that government?

4th. Q. How did it happen that an attachment to the cause of France (of which that character was well known to be a warm admirer) became connected with, and understood to be inseparable from, an enmity to our government; and that the person who had been the chief cause of the adoption of the government, and was well known to be under the influence of the ambassador, become immediately on his return to America, so strangely changed, as to be considered among the foremost in those sinister principles of a friendship to the cause of France and enmity to the American government?

5th. Q. Who was it that recommended the writings of Mr. Paine here as "the standard of Common Sense," and whether was the same person acquainted with Mr. Paine's whole system, or if he was not, when he became acquainted with it, whether did he with the influence of that recommendation to extend to the whole of his wife's writings?

6th. Q. Who were the two influential characters who introduced Mr. Frenau into the department of state, and let him up as a printer; who introduced his subscription papers into Albemarle, Orange, &c. recommended him as the republican printer, and acted as agents even between him and his subscribers in that quarter; and why all this industry, trouble and pains, and what the object and complexion of that paper?

7th. Q. Why were the resolutions of *Albepharle* on the subject of the proclamation of neutrality (formed and warmly advocated by young gentlemen immediately from under the private roof and influence of the secretary of state) so materially different from the communication from the public office of state upon the same subject?

8th. Q. Why were the sentiments of those of the same connexion and immediately under the same influence, always and uniformly warm, bitter and loud against principles, men and measures, which the person holding that influence over them pretended to view in a very different light?

9th. Q. Why was the same inconsistency of sentiment which thus prevailed between this man of influence and his admirers, even maintained in the same character at once, by holding up to different people of different sentiments, almost in the same breath, the same characters in different lights?

10th. Q. Whether or not, was the letter said to have been written to Mazzei, the production of the person to whom it was imputed; and if it was not, why was the influence of its reputed author's name not taken from it as soon as it was known to be published in France with a view of injuring this country?

11th. Q. Was the department of state, during the secretaryship of Mr. Jefferson made the channel thro' which letters were sent to France, which the writers of such letters supposed to be improper to be trusted thro' that department, after that devoted friend to France had left it, and were therefore committed to the immediate care of the minister of that country, as the more secure channel, * as has been acknowledged by a man supposed to be in such secrets?

12th. Q. Who was the person Dupont de Nemours in the council of 500 declared would be devoted to France if he was appointed president of America; and how did that servant of the French people come by that information which was withheld from the American people?

13th. Q. Why was Mr. Adet so extremely anxious for, and active in the election of Mr. Jefferson, and was not he the person to be devoted to France, if elected president?

14th. Q. Why did Mr. Adet communicate with Mr. Blount on that subject, and why was that amiable senator of America so strenuous (in the election of president) for Mr. Jefferson?

15th. Q. Why did Mr. Jefferson quit

* See *Americanus* No. 3, for an explanation of this fact.

his important post in the senate, when Mr. Blount who had been among the most warm, decided and important advocates for his election in America, was to be disgraced?

16th. Q. And finally and lastly—was not Mr. Adet (with whom Mr. Blount was intimate, and coincided and operated so perfectly in the election of a president devoted to France) certainly and absolutely at the bottom of the Canada plot; to give a coloured pretext to which, and raise a plausible pretence for retaining our posts in the south western parts of America, to bring about a partition of the United States, in which those schemes of French influence and American devotion would be more easily reciprocated than by the troublesome means of the little *ambassador*, of consulting the WILL of the American people, the pretence of an invasion from Canada on Upper Louisiana was raised, and Mr. Blount's pretended plot with the British fabricated.

The last conclusion (which I trust will close the scene of French influence and American devotion to that country among us) I think I am now warranted to draw, from a little hint of the complexion of the plan which accidentally and unguardedly fell from Mr. Blount himself, before it was known how far and which way the operation of the discovery of the contents of his letter to Cary was to go.

This very amiable senator on his way to congress in 1796, in company with his patriotic brother, fell in, in this city, with two gentlemen, one a devoted friend and advocate for French principles, the other, supposed by him, from certain striking circumstances, to be a warm and decided advocate for the election of Mr. Jefferson. "He hoped," he said "the latter gentleman had been doing every thing in his power to ensure the election of his friend Mr. Jefferson as president; that he had secured for him all the votes in his state; and that if he was not elected he would make America shake to her foundation?" Mr. Jefferson we know was not elected president. How Mr. Blount was to make America shake to her foundation, and for what, let this declaration show, & add it to that of Dupont de Nemours; the exertions of Mr. Adet and Mr. Blount to the same object in the election of the president; the agency of Mr. Blount's friend (Adet) in the Canada scheme; and Mr. Vice President's unwillingness to be present and aiding in the disgrace of his good friend, citizen Blount—all proclaim.

Whether this confession of Mr. Blount, made at that particular stage of the business ought to attract the notice of the committee charged with an enquiry into every circumstance attending the business, is not for me to say. One thing however, becomes necessary now for me to declare; and that is, the author of these publications holding it equally improper and mean to do either a public or private injury under a cover of any kind whatever, now offers, that if those who he conceives have injured their country in that way, and are pointed at, will condescend to come forward and answer such questions as are here put, and within their power to answer, he will on his part, assume a more visible appearance, and pledges himself to substantiate every thing he has asserted: And, that any one who possesses the principles of democracy and equality, should hold himself aloof from the enquiries of people under an idea of superior dignity and worth, or from an official consideration, is only a confirmation of their deceptive pretences in every way.

AMERICANUS.

From the ORACLE

Lord Malmesbury's Negotiation,

Opens under circumstances, if not of an unpromising, at least of a singular nature; for nothing can be less secure than the existence of the government with which he is going to treat. By the word government here, we do not mean the persons who administer the public affairs of France, but the constitution itself.

Even in a settled government, a change of ministers may take place at a critical time, but still without overturning any agreement actually concluded; because, though the ministers under whose auspices it commenced should be removed, still the authority under which they negotiated would remain